



CHRIS ABELE, MILWAUKEE COUNTY EXECUTIVE
JOHN DARGLE, JR., DIRECTOR OF PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURE

Date: August 30, 2016

To: Jason Haas, Chair, Parks, Energy and Environment Committee

From: John Dargle, Jr., CPRP Director, Department of Parks, Recreation and Culture (DPRC)

Subject: **Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District – Kinnickinnic River Watershed Restoration Plan Update (INFO)**

ISSUE

The Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District (MMSD) will provide an update on its planning efforts to help reduce flooding impacts in the Kinnickinnic River Watershed.

BACKGROUND

The Kinnickinnic River Watershed is highly urbanized and continues to have many challenges related to flooding impacts from large storms. In response to an increased flood risk to residents, businesses and organizations on Milwaukee's south side, the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District (MMSD) is undertaking a comprehensive flood management study on the Kinnickinnic (KK) River and its tributaries. MMSD has been working with the DPRC and other stakeholders to evaluate potential solutions that can reduce the impacts from flooding events within the watershed and improve the quality of life for its residents. Plans are currently being developed to make these streams a community asset once again by reducing the flood risk, restoring the river, and incorporating additional community enhancements.

Due to the proximity of the floodplains to several Milwaukee County parks and the likelihood that many of the alternatives could have impacts on these parks, updated park plans for several area parks are being developed. These include Pulaski Park, KK River Parkway between S. 16th Street & S. 60th Street, Jackson Park, Lyons Park and Wilson Park. The planning effort is evaluating needs and opportunities within these parks. Feedback from the adjacent neighborhoods and other users of the parks are being incorporated with the intent that any modifications to the parks proposed under the flood management study will maintain the overall park vision, and ultimately, provide enhancements to the park and the community.



This flood management and park planning study began in 2015. Public meetings have been held to present the alternatives developed to reduce flood risk and enhance the parks. Additional public meetings will be scheduled to present refined alternatives to the many Stakeholders.

MMSD staff will provide a presentation and verbal status update to the Parks, Energy and Environment Committee on these planning efforts.

RECOMMENDATION

No action requested. Informational item unless further action required.

Prepared by: Kevin Haley, Landscape Architect – Planning and Development

Approved by:


John Dargle, Jr., CPRP, Director

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